

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of cleaning carpet to kill fungi and bacteria comprising contacting a cleaning composition containing chlorine dioxide or precursors thereof with the carpet to reduce total bioburden by at least 0.3 log.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the cleaning composition contains less than about 80 ppm chlorine dioxide.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the cleaning composition contains from about 5 ppm to about 15 ppm of chlorine dioxide.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the cleaning composition reduces total bioburden by at least 0.7 log.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising removing the removable dirt content on the carpet surface prior to contacting the cleaning composition with the carpet.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the removable dirt content on the carpet is below 0.10 gram per square meter, measured in a 90 second period using a vacuum pump.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the cleaning composition further comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, emulsifier and additive.
8. A composition comprising chlorine dioxide or precursors thereof for cleaning carpet effective to reduce total bioburden by at least 0.3 log.
9. The composition of claim 8 wherein the cleaning composition contains less than 80 ppm chlorine dioxide.
10. The composition of claim 9 containing from about 5 ppm to about 15 ppm of chlorine dioxide.
11. The composition of claim 8 wherein the cleaning composition reduces total bioburden by at least 0.7 log.

12. The composition of claim 8 further comprising at least one component selected from the group consisting of a surfactant, emulsifier and additive.